

"Again and again, the president has insisted on an open-ended commitment despite expert advice and the views of the vast majority of the American public. He has abused the authorization he was given in 2002," said Farr. "As a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer I know first-hand the need to emphasize diplomatic and political solutions in volatile environments. Instead of the president's troop surge, we need a diplomatic surge in Iraq."

"My bill is short and to the point. I did not support the authorization for military force in 2002 and I think it is high time the rest of Congress reconsidered. I am thankful to Chairman Lantos for giving these Iraq bills a hearing today and am proud of the new debate we're having in Congress under the Democratic Leadership."

House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Tom Lantos (CA-12) presided over the hearing of Iraq-related bills said, "Rep. Farr provided thought-provoking testimony on his legislation concerning the most pressing foreign policy issue that America confronts today - the conflict in Iraq. The legislation is thoughtful and serious. I appreciate this opportunity to hear from him, and the Committee will consider the legislation carefully."

Farr's legislation, H.R. 413, reads:

**SECTION 1. REPEAL OF PUBLIC LAW 107-243.**

*The Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Public Law 107-243; 50 U.S.C.1541 note) is hereby repealed.*

**SEC. 2. WITHDRAWAL OF UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES FROM IRAQ.**

*The President of the United States shall provide for the withdrawal of units and members of the United States Armed Forces deployed in Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom in a safe and orderly manner.*